

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 21, 2004. Claims 1 to 43 remain pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 20, 41 and 43 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 20, 21, 25, 28, 29, 41 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Microsoft Word 2000 Screen Dumps, Claims 3 to 5, 7, 8, 11 to 15, 22 to 24, 26, 27 and 30 to 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Microsoft Word 2000 Screen Dumps in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,991,396 (Salm), Claims 16 to 18, 35 to 37, 39, 40 and 42 were rejected under § 103(a) over Microsoft Word 2000 Screen Dumps in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,717,426 (Ohkado), and Claims 19 and 38 were rejected under § 103(a) over Microsoft Word 2000 Screen Dumps in view of Ohkado and further in view of Salm. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns processing of character strings. According to the invention, a user selects one of a plurality of registered character strings included in a displayed list displayed on a display screen. Then, the selected character string is inserted at a position pointed by a cursor being displayed on the display screen, wherein the inserted character string is added to image information which is to be sent to a destination. As a result, when a user wants to send image information (e.g., a scanned document) to a particular destination, the user can set the destination for which the image information is to be sent by merely selecting a registered character string (e.g., an email address) that

represents the destination, and can insert the selected character string at a position in the display screen that may, for example, represent input for a destination address.

With specific reference to the claims, independent Claim 1 is a character processing method, comprising the steps of displaying a list including a plurality of registered character strings on a display screen, a user selecting, based on a user instruction, one of the character strings included in the list displayed in the displaying step, and inserting the character string selected in the selecting step at a position pointed by a cursor being displayed on the display screen when the character string has been selected in the selecting step, wherein the inserted character string is added to image information which is to be sent to a destination.

Independent Claims 20, 41 and 43 are apparatus, computer-readable medium and computer program claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

The applied art, alone or in combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of independent Claims 1, 20, 41 and 43. More particularly, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a user selecting, based on a user instruction, one of a plurality of registered character strings included in a list displayed on a display screen, and inserting the selected character string at a position pointed by a cursor being displayed on the display screen when the character string has been selected, wherein the inserted character string is added to image information which is to be sent to a destination.

The Microsoft Word 2000 screen dump merely depicts an autocorrect function. To register an autocorrection, an AutoCorrect window is displayed for a user to

input (i.e., register) autocorrections that are to be automatically performed by the program. Once the autocorrections are registered, when a user types a symbol representing a registered autocorrection (e.g., “~”), the typed symbol (“~”) is automatically replaced with the corresponding registered autocorrection (“It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to”). Thus, the list of registered character strings is not displayed on the display in order for the user to be able to select one of the strings to be inserted, but rather, the list of registered strings is only displayed for the user to edit the list by either adding a new autocorrection, to delete an autocorrection, or to edit a registered autocorrection. In other words, the user simply cannot select a registered character string from a displayed list. Instead, the user has to have knowledge of the autocorrect symbol to type, while the autocorrect feature works in the background to replace the typed-in symbol with the registered autocorrection.

Moreover, the present invention provides for the user to first, select the character string, and second, to select a position on the display screen at which the character string is to be inserted once the character string has been selected. In contrast, in the screen dumps, the user has to first, locate the cursor at the position where the autocorrection is to be performed, and second, type in the autocorrect symbol that is to be replaced by the autocorrection. Therefore, the screen dump is also not seen to insert the character string which is selected from a displayed list at a position pointed by a cursor being displayed on the display screen when the character string has been selected.

In addition to the foregoing, nothing in the screen dumps is seen to disclose or to suggest that the registered character string that is selected and inserted is added to image information which is to be sent to a destination. In the screen dumps, the

autocorrection that is inserted is merely text that is part of a word processing document, and therefore, is not seen to be added to image information which is to be sent to a destination.

In view of each of the foregoing deficiencies of the screen dumps, none of amended independent Claims 1, 20, 41 and 43 are believed to be anticipated.

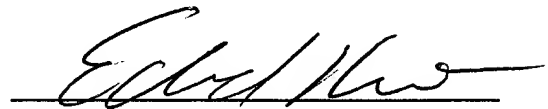
Salm and Ohkado have been studied but are not seen to add anything that, when combined with the screen dumps, would have resulted in the present invention. In particular, any proposed combination of the screen dumps, Salm and Ohkado, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a user selecting, based on a user instruction, one of a plurality of registered character strings included in a list displayed on a display screen, and inserting the selected character string at a position pointed by a cursor being displayed on the display screen when the character string has been selected, wherein the inserted character string is added to image information which is to be sent to a destination.

In view of the foregoing deficiencies of the applied art, Claims 1, 20, 41 and 43, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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